

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 8(a) shows a CPCI system adapted for dynamic replacement of a hot swap controller according to an embodiment of the invention. Referring to Fig. 8(a), a backplane 800 has a hot swap controller 802 and a standby circuitry 804, with the hot swap controller 802 connected to BD\_SELECT# 806a, BD\_HEALTHY# 806b, and BD\_RESET# 806c connector-pins of slot 801 via the signal lines 808a-808c, respectively. The hot swap controller 802 has a core control circuit 810 including a register 810a for storing the status of the signal lines 808a-808c, an arbitration control circuit 812, a communication control circuit 814, and switches 816a-816c. The core control circuit 810 is connected to the BD\_SELECT# 806a, BD\_HEALTHY# 806b and BD\_RESET# 806c connector-pins through the switches 816a-816c via the signal lines 808a-808c, respectively. The BD\_SELECT# line 808a is connected to a ground 850 in the backplane 800 through a "weak-pull-down" resistor 840. The arbitration control circuit 812 simultaneously enables/disables the switches 816a-816c by transmitting a control signal through a common control line 818, and is also connected to the core control circuit 810 via a plurality of control lines 842. The communication control circuit 814 is connected to the arbitration control circuit 812 via a plurality of control lines 838. Although eight control lines 838, 842 are illustrated in Fig. 8, the control lines 838, 842 may include more or less than illustrated.